

Landscaping projects will add beauty, life to campus

By Nikki S. Bell
Staff Writer

Beautiful landscaping is being done all over campus "even though we don't know exactly when it will be finished," Fred Peters, director of marketing and public information, said. The rainy weather in December has delayed the work, but beautification is taking place everywhere this semester. Changes are being made in front of White Administrative Service Center, along Baxter and Lake streets, and around Genecov parking lot, Vaughn Conservatory, Potter Hall and the center of the campus behind Jenkins Hall.

This landscaping has required drastic measures such as removing a few large oak trees to provide more light in classrooms. "A lot of this work is being done thanks to 100 percent privately donated funds," Physical Plant Director Fred Carson said.

Many students wonder what's going on and when this will be finished. "How much longer do we have to detour around the construction to get into the west side of Jenkins Hall," they keep asking.

"Depending on the weather, the Botanical Gar-

den is expected for completion in March 2007," Carson said.

TJC is remarkably beautiful already with green lawns, crape myrtles that bloom in the spring, spacious walkways and plenty of room for students and faculty to sit outside and enjoy each other's company.

Soon we can expect to see Indian hawthorn, holly bushes, lantana, camellias, Asian jasmine and encore azaleas that bloom twice a year. "Cypress trees are also being added to provide

shade for students who enjoy studying outside in the summer," Principal Gifts Director Mitch Andrews said.

Both Carson and Andrews said we have to give a special thanks to Breedlove Landscaping. **Continued on page 3**



Photo by Nikki S. Bell

Weed accepts full ride to Baylor

By Chris Shepperd
Editor

One of TJC's finest has taken his game to the next level. John David Weed transferred this semester to the Big 12.

Baylor University offered Weed a full scholarship to come in and fight for the starting quarterback role.

Weed is enrolled at Baylor and will participate in Spring practice with the Bears.

While playing football for TJC, Weed accomplished a lot. He was named the South West Junior College Football Conference

Player of the Year, Offensive MVP and First Team Quarterback, NJCAA All American and Player of the Year Nominee.

He also was ranked no. 1 in SWJCFC and no. 3 in the nation for passing yards.

He passed for 2,683 yards and 23 touchdowns in his TJC career. The bulk of those yards came in the 2006 season, where he started all nine games.

Under Weed's direction, the TJC offense was ranked second in the conference averaging 356.7 yards per game.

Weed was also a mem-

ber of Phi Theta Kappa, made the Presidents/Dean's List and was on the Region XIV SWJCFC All Academic Team.

Weed, with two years of eligibility left, will be in a tough battle for the starting quarterback position. His top competition will be Michael Machen who recently graduated from Kent State and has one year of eligibility remaining.

According to www.baylorbears.cstv.com, Baylor Head Coach Guy Morriss said, "This is by far the best recruiting class we've signed in the five years I've been at Baylor."

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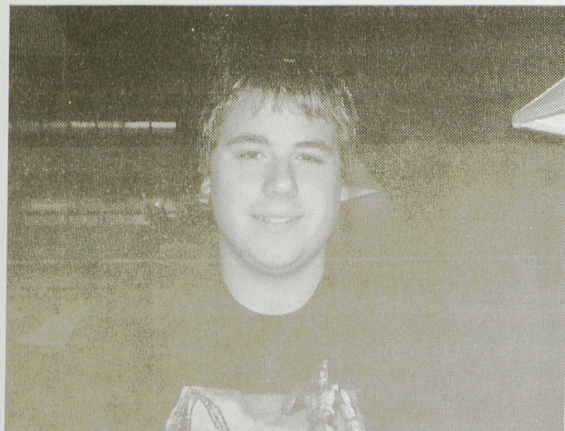
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Campus Focus Reporter: Dustin Phillips

Campus Focus

How did you celebrate Valentine's Day?



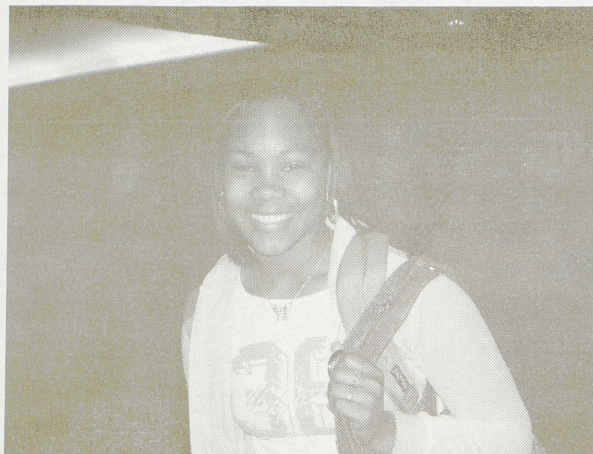
Nursing major

Zach Brauher

"I took off work and sat at home. My girlfriend had to work, but we're going to celebrate it this weekend."

Sociology major

Sanderriqua Moss



"I went to church and did a praise dance. Then I went out to eat with my friends."

General studies major

Carlos Bataller

"I spoke with my girlfriend and made her a powerpoint presentation with pictures of our best memories."



Young adults living the lyrics of rap music: realism or fantasy?

*By Royce Eller
Staff Writer*

The fascinating nature of rap culture can be so enthralling at times that it tends to overwhelm the pragmatic minds of this generation's youth. On television, in movies, on the radio and in magazines, the glamour of a "gangster paradise" is so predominant that it is rapidly warping the young people's perception of reality. The expansive growth of rap culture has caused cultural identity meant for entertainment to become a standard

for modern society. This identity condones "ridin' dirty," "shaking your money maker," acting "like a pimp" and "gold diggers."

Students need to ask themselves "What makes this culture so appealing?"

Veterinary Medicine Major Shanay Perry said, "I feel like girls and money are used to sell music, because if you've got naked girls and money in your video, people are going to watch your video and then listen to the music."

In a divergent light, Criminal

Justice Major Tristan King said, "Some songs are inspiring, teaching the listener how to be a better person...it lets you see life through their eyes."

Students need to focus on reality instead of far-flung lifestyles that are most likely not obtainable. Large quantities of growing fashions in America are coming from this rap culture students see on television. The fashions aren't necessarily bad, but the drugs, killings and derogatory ideas associated with much of the music makes this

lyrical culture less than desirable for today's society.

To be totally honest, "I love it." The lyrics are tantalizing, the rhythms are great and, in my opinion, there is nothing wrong with listening to the music. But, when young people try to live by the lyrics, it becomes a societal problem.

All young adults need to take a practical look at reality and evaluate what they need to do to be successful, instead of trying to mimic far-fetched ideals.

Tyler Junior College News

Editors

Katie Hall and Chris Shepperd

Staff Writers

Nikki S. Bell, Elisa Doyle, Royce Eller, Dalfie Fraction, Dawn Golden, Jorge Juarez, Robin McDavid, Ashlie Osburn, Dustin Phillips, Simon Saleh and James Warren

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Retired teachers appreciate, remember time at TJC

By Dawn Golden
Staff Writer

"A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops," Henry Adams said (1838-1918). Life is so much easier thanks to teachers. Even when teachers retire, their jobs never fully end...they continue on through the lives of their students.

Two influential instructors, retired Vocational Nursing Instructor Joyce Martin in 2003 and Willie Lee Palmore, biology lab, anatomy and physiology instructor in 1991, together, worked a total of 40 years beginning in the late 1960s.

As one might suspect, 40 years here meant these women had to face a lot of changes. Trust, for example, began to be harder for

instructors to gain, and legal liabilities became a new issue. Perhaps the biggest change was technology.

"We went from total book dependency to more and more leaning on computers," Martin said, "which to me was a delight."

With each passing decade, TJC began to attract more older students. These students were either completing an education started years before or just beginning their college careers.

"My program was full of young women who just needed a chance to prove themselves," Martin said. "They wanted to prove that they could be independent and that they could go out and get a decent job. It was really neat to help them do that."

The art of teaching has many ups and downs, as well as unusual and funny moments. These humorous instances are just part of the job of teaching, and both Martin and Palmore agree that they only get funnier with the passage of time.

"There was this one student who must have been on something. He came into the classroom looking like death warmed over," Palmore said. "As I was teaching, I noticed that the man was leaning further and further to one side. Just before he fell over, I called another student to wake him up, catch him or do something before the guy fell completely out of his chair."

Martin said being a teacher helped her grow and gain an understanding

of different people from different backgrounds and helped her learn to give more of herself.

"I think TJC really backs their staff. They stand behind you, and they do what they can to help the teacher succeed with the student," Martin said.

Their years working at TJC had a very positive impact on both women, they said. Every day brought a new challenge and a new opportunity for them to teach students what they needed to know to succeed.

"Perhaps the best part of my job was seeing an old student of mine at the hospital," Palmore said, "achieving what he had worked so hard to accomplish at school."

TJC staff keeps watch on campus lighting

By Jorge Juarez
Staff Writer

Lighting on the TJC campus is important to all who are there at night: faculty, students or visitors. Most people want bright

lights at TJC so they can find their way safely to wherever they are going at all hours.

Campus staff are looking to solve this problem. Campus Safety Director

Randy Melton and Physical Plant Director Fred Carson both said they are working 100 percent on this issue.

Weekly surveys are taken at different hours of the day to determine what can be done to make campus lighting comfortable for those who are here. Melton said the campus was surveyed with faculty, students and TJC President Dr. Bill Crowe, during the evening hours so all could understand student concerns.

Carson said trying to make things brighter "is important to us." Under

his management many light poles have been installed at Genecov, the corner of Lake Street, between Claridge and Sledge halls and next to the new parking lot.

With only two electricians on staff, Physical Plant employees work around the clock examining and replacing light bulbs. They make sure the computers correctly light all poles and fixtures.

Melton and Carson do annual surveys with TJC President Dr. Bill Crowe and faculty members to discover and fix problems.

News Briefs

New Roofing - On Monday Feb. 12, construction on the new roof of White's Administration Building began. The construction will take several weeks to complete.

During these weeks of construction, the drive directly in front of the building will be closed and blocked off to conventional traffic. Barricades and detour signs will be posted in order to redirect the entering and exiting of any recurring traffic.

Enrollment - The unofficial enrollment head count for TJC this semester is 8,962, seven more students than in spring 2006, Public Information Director Fred Peters said.

Students are taking 1,903,408 course hours, 25,664 more hours than students took last spring.

The Higher Education Coordinating Board will publish final statistics in April, which may have an effect on the overall enrollment. Final statistics from all Texas colleges were due Feb. 15, Peters said.

"The Burn" - "The Burn" praise and worship service will be at Premier Fitness in Tyler for 24 hours Feb. 23-24 from 7 p.m.-7 p.m.

For more information regarding the event call Premier Fitness at 903-939-3100.

Campus landscaping

Continued from page 1

"We see them working hard to make our campus more inviting, and giving the public a little something extra to add to the Rose City," Andrews said.

In all, Garrent and Associates General Contractor in White House contracted the work which will cost \$224,000. Privately donated funds brought in \$250,000 to TJC which will cover the projects.

"No one project can be started until it is fully funded," Peters said. The Botanical Gardens are funded by TJC Foundation.

TJC Faculty experiencing new growth and development

By James Warren
Staff Writer

Among the new TJC faculty are: Biology Lab Specialist Christina Balduf, Accounting Instructor Shelley Cross, Piano Performance Instructor Dr. Maria Guenette and General Chemistry Instructor Robert Root.

Biology Lab Specialist Balduf conducts the labs for both anatomy and physiology 1 and 2, and microbiology. A TJC graduate, she earned her bachelor's degree in biology at the University of North Texas.

TJC is her first teaching job. In her second semester here, Balduf said she chose TJC "because it is a great junior college."

After high school she

received a scholarship that covered all expenses at TJC. Balduf is proud to be an Apache alumnus because she "loves its history and accessibility," she said. She praises TJC for its great faculty who love to help and teach new teachers, like herself.

For Balduf, teaching was her "first choice." While an undergraduate in med school, she was encouraged to teach. After taking a course that showed science instructors and professors how to teach science, she was hooked. Balduf said, "It made me change my career goals."

Accounting Instructor Cross teaches accounting and introduction to business. Cross received both

her bachelor's and master's degrees in accounting, with a specialty in taxation, at the University of Texas at Dallas.

She taught for one year at Brookhaven Community College in Dallas before coming to TJC.

She chose TJC, Cross said, "because it's a great place to work and has a great reputation. I am proud to contribute to the business department." The Tyler area was also a good move for her family, she said.

For Cross, "teaching is a mission and a great profession to go into." She is afraid that "too many students don't know all the opportunities that come with teaching." Overall, Cross

loves teaching and working in the financial field.

Piano Performance Instructor Dr. Maria Guenette teaches all four sections of piano. She earned her bachelor's of music in piano performance in Canada at the University of Ottawa, a master's in piano performance at the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music, a master's in harpsicord performance at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York and doctorate in piano performance at the Eastman School of Music.

This is Guenette's third year of teaching at the college level. She taught at Winston Salem State University in North Carolina for a year. Her second year was at the North Carolina School of the Arts, and she also taught part-time at Greensboro College both years.

She chose TJC, she said, "because I was looking to settle down and wanted job security."

At TJC, Guenette is able to focus on teaching the piano and the music involved. She loves being able to play in the vocal and instrumental performances.

Guenette said she "always wanted to be a teacher." Her father was also a teacher. Since she was a young girl she wanted to be a concert pianist and teacher.

At 15, she was hired to teach piano at an academy

of music in Canada. Guenette said, "I have gained experience so that I can pass it on to my students."

General Chemistry Instructor Root teaches chemistry along with chemistry labs.

While attending the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, he studied chemical and nuclear engineering.

At the time, West Point did not have majors or grant bachelor's degrees. He earned his master's in organic chemistry at Texas A&M University.

This is Root's ninth year to teach at the college level.

While on active duty for many years, he taught for five years at West Point. He then taught for three years at Marion Military Institute, a military junior college in south central Alabama.

Originally from Texas, Root wanted to work his way back to his home state. He and his wife fell in love with Tyler and he grew fond of TJC.

He became a teacher, Root said, "because it seemed like the natural thing to do."

After his first military tour, the science department chair at West Point asked Root when he would come back to teach. Root decided to give it a shot and found his calling. His favorite part of teaching, he said, is "seeing the light bulb come on."

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Alumni Association maintains school spirit, provides scholarships

By Katie Hall
Editor

The TJC Alumni Association exists for former students to stay connected with TJC and give back to the school through scholarships and involvement. There are 1,200 members in the organization and 1,500 complementary members, Alumni Relations Director

Betty Briggs said.

The organization has four chapters in Texas: in Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin and Houston. TJC alumni also have chapters along the East and West Coasts of the United States.

The Alumni Association currently has \$100,000 in endowed scholarships contributed through alumni

dues. Scholarships for TJC students include the Presidential Scholarship, which provides selected incoming freshmen with \$2,000 for two years, and the Legacy Scholarship, which goes to those students who excel in performance programs. The Student to Alumni Representative Scholarships, or STARS, are awarded to

students who assist with alumni events during the year. The Association also awards annual scholarships to certain students based on leadership and academic excellence. Children of alumni members receive first opportunity for all these scholarships.

A board of community leaders and TJC personnel lead the Alumni Association, Briggs said. Many of the members represent specific TJC organizations such as band, athletics, Apache Belles or cheerleading.

They also participate in

various activities on campus and are especially involved in Homecoming, at which they recognize distinguished alumni with an awards ceremony.

The Alumni Association also hosts Alumni events, aids in college recruitment and publishes the Apache magazine and the TJC Alumni Drum Beat newsletter.

"I owe a lot to TJC and I wouldn't be where I am today if it weren't for this school," Briggs said, "They encouraged me to go on. TJC is truly the most important degree I have."

Study habits reflect students' grades

By Robin McDavid
Staff Writer

Many TJC students try to set academic goals for themselves. Sometimes they succeed at these goals and sometimes they fall short. Students who achieve high honors make other students wonder what motivates them. What study strategies do they use? What do they look forward to at the end of all of their hard work?

Some students believe their major plays a huge part in their academic success.

"I want to be in the nursing program and in order to do this, I have to make good grades," Nursing Major Carla Carpenter said.

For some students their families provide the motivation. "My parents expect the best of me and I don't want to disappoint them," Nursing Major Jessica Williams said.

The status they have already achieved, such as being in the honor society Phi

Theta Kappa, keeps them striving harder academically. Some students believe if they try their hardest in academics, they will succeed in their career field.

"You need the discipline that you learn in school to be successful in a job," Advertising/Public Relations Major Mireille Chavanne said.

Besides motivation, students also need to have good study habits.

Some believe the only way they can study is by getting away from it all. "I usually go somewhere with no distractions where I can work on school work and only that," Dental Hygiene Major Stephanie Perkins said.

Some TJC students put themselves on time schedules. "I study one hour every day because studying long hours gets your brain tired," Nursing Major Grace Anyenya said.

Some students take good notes and study those notes. "Whatever is repeated, I write it down," Adver-

tising/Public Relations Major Tamar Dos Santos said.

Some people believe it's not just about studying, but about going above and beyond. General Studies Major Angela Gill not only does the work her instructor gives her, but she also does extra credit assignments. Other students just have the best of luck. "I have not studied or cracked open a book and I am still graduating with honors," Gill said.

"Some students just have eccentric luck," General Studies Major Rachel Smith said.

"Sleep with your books under your pillow," suggests Royce T. Eller, advertising/public relations major. The rewards these students can look forward to after all of their hard work include gratification for themselves and others. "It makes my parents proud," Nursing Major Grace Anyenya said.

"At the end it makes me feel good," Dental Hygiene Major Perkins said.

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Malone scores 35; Apache ladies fall in OT

By Chris Shepperd
Editor

The Apache Ladies suffered a tough conference loss Wednesday night at the hands of the Angelina Lady Runners.

Despite 35 points from Sophomore Guard Jamia Malone, the Ladies couldn't hold on for a victory Wednesday night.

With eight and a half minutes remaining in the game, the Ladies led the Lady Runners by 17.



Courtesy photo Tyler Paper
TJC's Laquisha Cook shoots over Angelina's LaTonya Mays.

Angelina, under the leadership of Guard Camille Parks, took over.

"We've been streaky all semester and it got us tonight," TJC Head Coach Trenia Jones said, according to Tyler Morning Telegraph.

The Lady Runners outscored the Apache Ladies 14-4 in OT and finished off with a 92-82 victory.

The Apache Ladies fell to 20-6 for the year and 9-5 in conference play.

Mavs Man flies through TJC

By Chris Shepperd
Editor

Mavs man made a stop at Wagstaff Gym Wednesday night. He was brought in to provide halftime en-

tertainment for the TJC vs. Angelina basketball game.

He performed high flying acrobatic dunks and even took the time to say hello to Dr. Crowe.



Mavs man greets Dr. Crowe (above) and performs for the crowd in Wagstaff on Wednesday (below).
Photos by Chris Shepperd

Apaches roll over Angelina, win 95-82

By Chris Shepperd
Editor

The Apaches got their groove back Wednesday against the Angelina College Roadrunners with a 95-82 win at Wagstaff Gym.

Behind the strong performance of Sophomore Guard Tyrone Cole-Scott, who scored 31 points, TJC brought their conference record up to 8-8.

With the Apaches trail-

ing 42-36 at halftime, Apache Head Coach Mike Marquis gave a passionate speech to rally the troops.

The Apaches outscored the Roadrunners 56-40 in the second half.

Wing Schyler King and Forward Delbert Simpson combined for 26 points in the second half to lift the Apaches to victory.

"I started all five Sophomores in the second half and I challenged them

about their sense of urgency and their pride in Tyler Junior College," Marquis said, "I thought for at least 20 minutes, obviously their response was pretty strong," according to Tyler Morning Telegraph.

The Apaches brought their record to 15-8 for the year.

Their next home game will be Feb. 24 vs. Panola in Wagstaff.



T

Score Board

Men's Basketball

TVCC d. TJC
Feb. 3 94-90

TJC d. Kilgore
Feb. 7 70-68 (OT)

Paris d. TJC
Feb. 10 100-88

TJC d. Angelina
Feb. 14 1-0

Women's Basketball

TVCC d. TJC
Feb. 3 77-74

TJC d. Kilgore
Feb. 7 72-46

TJC d. Paris
Feb. 10 75-62

TJC d. Angelina
Feb. 14 1-0

Men's Tennis

TJC d. Cowley County
Feb. 9 9-0

TJC d. Central Oklahoma
Feb. 10 8-1

Women's Tennis

Northwestern d. TJC
Feb. 4 8-1

Cowley County d. TJC
Feb. 9 6-3

TJC d. Cowley County
Feb. 10 6-0

Baseball

Cedar Valley d. TJC
Feb. 3 4-2 (Game 1)

TJC d. Cedar Valley
Feb. 3 11-7 (Game 2)

Rec Life Intramural 5-on-5 basketball a slam dunk with students

By Dalfie Fraction
Staff Writer

Intramural 5-on-5 basketball tournament play will determine who will be crowned the next TJC In-

tramural 5-on-5 Basketball Champion.

Ten teams will be divided into two divisions, black and gold teams represented by letters A through

E. Black division teams are: TKO, New Money, A.B.N., Big Bodies and L-Town Possey. Gold division teams are the Underdogs, the Kings, M.O.B., Whitie Tighties, and Ballin.

Regular season team records from Feb. 5 to 14 are: team records starting

with the black division are: Black Division TKO (4-0), New Money (2-2), A.B.N. (2-1), Big Bodies (0-3) and L-Town Possey (1-3). Gold division records are: The Underdogs (2-2), The Kings (0-3), M.O.B. (4-0), Whitie Tighties (0-3) and Ballin (3-1).

Regular season play will continue through Feb. 22 and playoffs will run Feb. 26 through March 1. The playoff tournament will be single elimination. Teams will be seeded according to their regular season records.

TJC offers fly fishing course

By Katie Hall
Editor

The TJC School of Continuing Studies now offers an instructional course on fly fishing entitled "Fly Fish the Fabled Rivers of Montana." Fly fishing is a form of fishing that involves small, lightweight lures representing tiny insects.

TJC has been offering basic fly fishing courses for continuing studies for the past eight years, Steve Robbins, vision care technology department chair said. Three years ago the students traveled to Montana.

This year, students will again travel to southwest Montana. They will fly out Aug. 5 and stay five nights and four days. They will

arrive in Bozeman and then be escorted to a lodge on Gallatin River, the same river where the 1992 film "A River Runs Through It," starring Brad Pitt, was filmed. Students will also be able to experience fly fishing in the Yellowstone and Madison Rivers while there.

The class is open for seven students. Robbins will accompany the students there, but when they arrive every two students will have a fly fishing instructor, a total of five instructors.

For further information on the class and how to register, prospective students can contact the Continuing Studies office at 903-510-2900 or visit www.tjc.edu/FishMontana.

TJC alumnus celebrates Super Bowl victory

By Chris Shepperd
Editor

TJC students and alumni found a good reason to celebrate the Indianapolis Colts' victory in the 2007 Super Bowl.

TJC alumnus and All-American, Dominic Rhodes, played one of the best games of his career. Rhodes rushed for 113 yards and one touchdown on 21 carries.

His strong effort couldn't have come at a better time. Not only did he help lead the Colts to a Super Bowl victory, he is also a free agent going into the off season.

According to the Tyler Morning Telegraph, Rhodes said, "I don't know

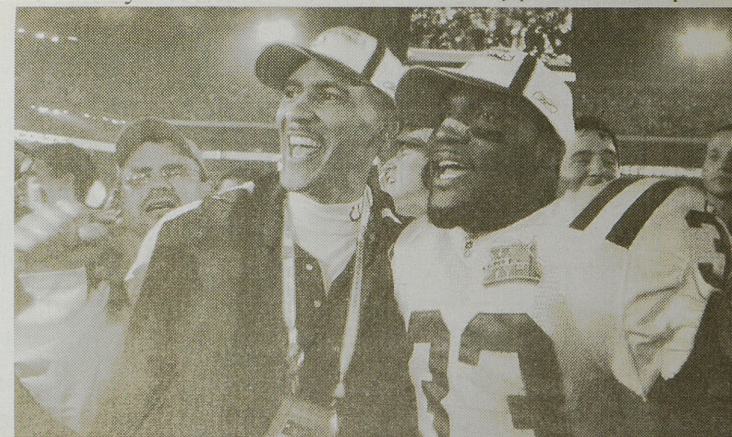
what is going to happen. I love playing for the Colts and I love my teammates. Whatever happens, I am just leaving it in God's hands and hopefully it is good for my family."

After the game, Rhodes and Colts Head Coach Tony Dungy became part of history when they recorded the famous line, "I'm going to Disney World."

Rhodes has come a long way from the TJC football field. He spent time at Midwestern State in Wichita Falls and then worked as an intern for the Dallas Cowboys.

After going undrafted, Rhodes walked on with the Colts where he rushed for 1000+ yards his rookie year behind Edgerrin James.

Courtesy photo Yahoo Sports



Baseball cont.

TJC d. Cedar Valley
Feb. 4 9-3

Panola d. TJC
Feb. 5 18-2

TJC d. Brookhaven
Feb. 9 7-1

TJC d. Brookhaven
Feb. 10 11-3

TJ
Upcoming Games

Men's Basketball

Feb. 21 at Jacksonville

Feb. 24 vs. Panola

Feb. 28 vs. Navarro

Mar. 3 at Lon Morris

Women's Basketball

Feb. 21 at Jacksonville

Feb. 24 vs. Panola

Mar. 3 at Lon Morris

Tennis

Men's

Feb. 23 vs Harding
Feb. 24 vs Ouchita Bapt.
Mar. 2 vs. New Mexico Mil.
Mar. 3 vs. ACU

Women's

Feb. 20 at Lee College
Feb. 23 at SFA

Feb. 24 vs. ACU
Feb. 27 at Collin County
Mar. 2 at Hardin Simmons.
Mar. 2 at Tarleton
Mar. 3 vs. ACU

Baseball

Feb. 19 at McLennan

Feb. 24-25 at North Lake

Mar. 2-3 vs. Mtn. View

Mar. 5 at Panola

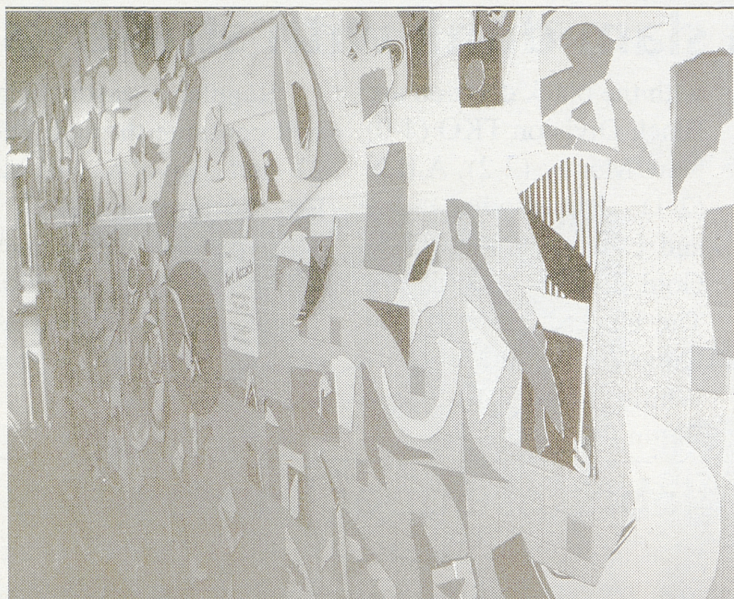


Photo by TJC Art Club

Art Attack appears in Potter

By Simon Saleh
Staff Writer

The TJC Art Club performed an "Art Attack" on a wall in Potter Hall.

The art is composed of abstract cardboard cutouts that were taped to the wall with masking tape.

The piece covers a 24

foot section of wall from floor to ceiling.

The goal was to bring art to Potter Hall and to promote awareness for the Art Club.

The Art Club meets every wednesday from 12-1pm in Jenkins Hall art department lobby.

TJC Cheer going to Nationals in Daytona

By Chris Shepperd
Editor

TJC Cheer is making their next stop in Daytona at the National Cheerleading Association national competition being held in April.

"We will be competing this year on the intermediate level. The squads are a little smaller but the competition is just as high," Cheerleader Russell Dycus said.

"The best thing about Nationals is the atmosphere. You see everyone practicing on the beach and you get to watch all these amazing programs perform really technical stunts," TJC Cheer Co-Captain Heather McCown said.

The squad this year has several new faces. But, there are two returning cheerleaders who share the lead.

Heather McCown and Lindsey Spearman will share the responsibility and the work load this year preparing the squad for competition.

They are coached by Jami Shaw.

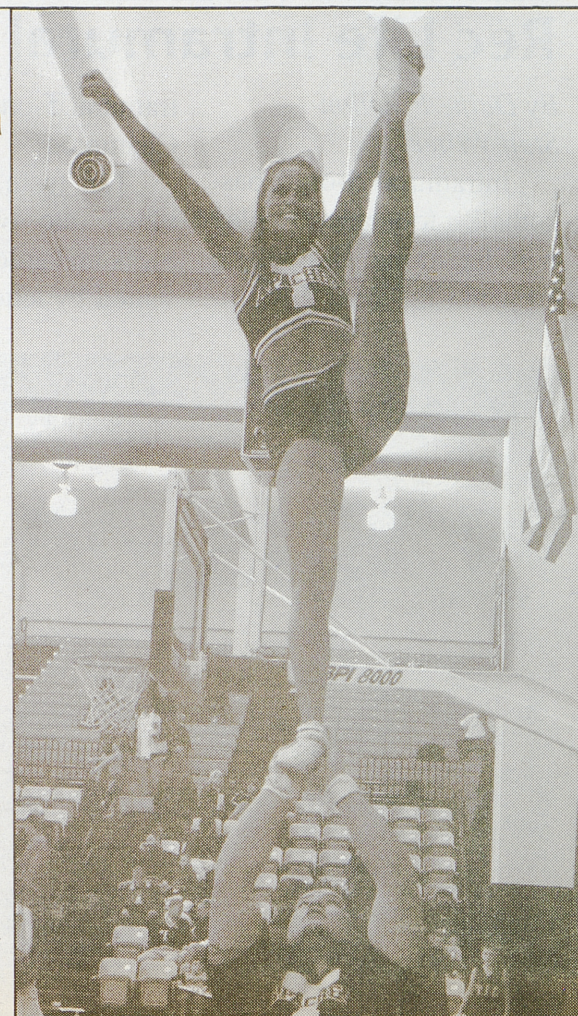


Photo by Chris Shepperd

Russell Dycus stunts with TJC Cheer Co-Captain Heather McCown at the Apache basketball game.

Student scholarship applications available at Financial Aid office

By Ashlie Osburn
Staff Writer

Scholarships have long been the only means that enable many students to attend college. TJC offers an abundance of scholarships that cover the vast scope of student interests and talents.

Yet the number of students who actually apply for scholarships is dismal compared to the number of students who might be eligible to receive one. Scholarship Director Shelby Brown said, "Any student can qualify for a scholarship if they have at least a 2.0 grade point average."

General scholarships are awarded each year to qualifying students who plan to be enrolled full-time and have at least a 2.0 GPA in all college courses they have taken.

Students seeking a scholarship will need to follow five steps:

1. Submit a completed Scholarship Application Form, which can be picked up at the financial aid office.

2. Submit a personal statement that describes long-term educational goals, any school and/or community service activities, a most significant chal-

lenge or accomplishment and any circumstances that may effect the student's ability to fund a college education.

3. Present a sealed letter of recommendation from a non-relative.

4. Submit a high-school transcript if the student has not completed any college courses.

5. Submit an official college transcript if the student has completed college coursework.

In the process of selecting scholarships and awards, the Selection Committee considers such factors as: academic

achievement, involvement in extracurricular or community service activities, educational goals, motivation and, in some cases, financial need. Students are asked to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine each student's need for financial aid.

Awarding is not limited to a specific selection committee. Brown said, "There are scholarships that are awarded to students through the faculty." TJC faculty also have the opportunity to select students they believe have earned a scholarship for academic

excellence or uprightness in character. This can give the selection process a more personal touch instead of simply flipping through applications of students they do not know.

Scholarship application deadline for 2007-08 is March 1. Students who are awarded will be notified by mail of their scholarship or grant available for fall 2007.

Brown said, "We encourage all students to apply because there is something that all students may qualify for...every student needs to apply."